

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended, while Claims 4, 5, 12, and 13 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite features provided in original Claims 5 and 13; therefore the amendments are supported by the original claims as filed. No new matter is included by the amendments.

Upon entry of the amendments, Claims 1-3, 7-11, and 14-15 are pending.

Rejection of Claim 1-4, 7-12, and 14-15 as Obvious

The Office Action states that Claims 1-4, 7-12, and 14-15 are obvious over Li (WO 00/19837). Without acquiescing to the rejection, but in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 10 to incorporate the features recited in Claims 5 and 10, respectfully. Consequently, the rejection is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action states that Claims 5 and 13 are allowable subject matter if amended to independent form. Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 10 to incorporate the features recited in Claims 5 and 13, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants submit independent Claims 1 and 10 are allowable subject matter for at least the same reasons that Claims 5 and 13 are allowed. Because Claims 1 and 10 are the only pending independent claims, Applicants further submit the present Application is in condition for allowance.

If any remaining issues must be addressed prior to obtaining a notice of allowance, Applicants invite Examiner Gwartney to contact Applicants by telephone.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure,

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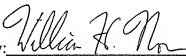
including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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